

MEDFORD URBAN RENEWAL AGENCY ADVISORY COMMITTEE MINUTES



Wednesday, January 12, 2022

5:00p.m.

Virtual Meeting

10. Roll Call

Committee members and staff present: Bill Boehning, EJ McManus, Caprice Moran, Christian Nelson, Bob Shand, Councilor Eric Stark, MURA Executive Director Harry Weiss, MURA Administrative Support Technician David Hernandez, Planning Department Principal Planner Carla Paladino.

20. Approval or Correction of the Minutes of November 10, 2021

The minutes of November 10, 2021 are approved as submitted.

30. Oral Requests and Communications from the Audience

None received. Due to the extreme number of COVID-19 cases in Jackson County, no in-person public comments were heard during this meeting.

40. Continued Committee Business

None.

50. Agenda Items

50.1 AARP Funded Traffic Calming Project on Pine & Maple

AARP has awarded the City \$5000 to implement traffic calming techniques on Pine Street and Maple Street in the Liberty Park neighborhood.

This project relates to a project that's identified in the Liberty Park Plan that was adopted in 2019 which was to evaluate some measures to provide a safer environment for residents who live on both streets.

This project must be completed by the middle of March of this year.

Mrs. Paladino has requested a 30-day extension to complete this project and is waiting on AARP to respond to her request.

MURA has funding for traffic calming if this project requires more funding than the awarded \$5000 grant.

50.2 Reclassification/Design of Third Street

The MURA Board rededicated 2 strips of land to bring that property in compliance with the proposed street cross sections of Fourth Street and Bartlett Street.

Meeting locations are generally accessible to persons with disabilities. To request interpreters for hearing impaired or other accommodations for persons with disabilities, please contact the ADA Coordinator at (541) 774-2074 or ada@cityofmedford.org at least three business days prior to the meeting to ensure availability. For TTY, dial 711 or (800) 735-1232.

MURA Advisory Committee Meeting of January 12, 2022

In consultation with the transportation manager Karl McNair, a strategy has been developed to vacate the southern half of 3rd Street and redesignate the street as a "Type 3 Street" under our Central Business Overlay. 3rd Street from Bartlett Street to Jackson Street would become a one-way travel lane eastbound heading towards Jackson Street with no parking and generous sidewalks on both sides. Mr. Shand objects to characterizing the proposed changes to 3rd Street as a "woonerf" and feels it would be misleading to the public; it should simply be a Type III Special Design Street.

Board Chair Stark suggested he would like to see the width of 3rd Street to be as minimal in size as possible to create more walking space on the street for pedestrians.

50.3 Central Avenue Project Update

The Board selected Rubicon/Edlen as the preferred developer for this project. MURA is in negotiations with the developer.

A request is pending with the Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) for a No further Action determination approving the site for residential use. A decision is expected in mid-March.

MURA and Rubicon is working on pre-development & due diligence tasks to present in the LIHTC and LIFT applications for low income housing tax credits and the LIFT housing grant program. The full amount of funding available is still in flux.

The Board believes the development of the warehouse should be removed from the housing project and be developed for complimentary commercial use to create higher value to maximize the property as a financial asset.

Mr. Bob Shand said he would like to see the warehouse be developed into an all age community center.

Schematic concepts for the site will be shared with the Committee later this spring.

60. Committee Reports

None.

70. Committee Member Remarks

Mr. Stark announced that today will be his last MURA AC meeting as Chair. Mr. Stark expressed his thanks and appreciation to Committee Members for their hard work and commitment to MURA.

Mr. Shand says that Mr. Stark is a positive benefit to MURA and the City Council and thanks him for his contributions to the City.

80. Staff Reports

**MURA Advisory Committee
Meeting of January 12, 2022**

Mr. Weiss say that that Board will elect a new Chair and Vice Chair at the MURA Board meeting on January 27, 2022.

90. Adjournment at 6:16pm

David M. Hernandez
Administrative Support Technician / Medford Urban Renewal Agency